

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

February 8, 1999 LB 211

which is a public hearing on major legislative matters. That's why I was speaking against the Beutler amendment and that's why I'll be forced to throw a red vote up on 211, a bill that I would otherwise vote for in the form that Senator Schmitt brought to us.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Landis. Chair recognizes Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I really wasn't planning to speak on this, this morning, but decided that I did owe Senator Beutler an explanation for my vote against his amendment. It wasn't really a vote against the intent of your amendment, Senator Beutler, because...but, as you said, it was because of all the questions that were raised. I thought about perhaps an amendment that would simply change the Tyson amendment to say "state office building" rather than "state buildings", but I don't know if there would be questions about that. There may be all kinds of questions. One of the things that I know is still out there is Senator Thompson's bill on the Clean Air Act, and I'm not sure I know what's in that bill and I'm not certain if we're having a discussion that would be better undertaken at the time that bill reaches the floor. And, Senator Thompson, if I could, I just...I'd just like from you just a one sentence or a half a sentence explanation about what...what that really covers, the Clean...under the Clean Air Act that you've proposed.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Thompson.

SENATOR THOMPSON: It covers quite a few things. It is an attempt to provide some clarifying language on what areas are covered, defining "common areas", but it also goes beyond that and discusses a proposal to provide that restaurants have, unless they have a bar area, that they would be smoke free. So there are a number of aspects to that bill. The biggest change would be the smoke-free restaurants, except for those that have liquor licenses and have a bar area, but there are some other parts of that bill that deal with common areas and some definitional things. It wouldn't be quite the same issue as you're getting here.